

DELMARVA FETE DRAWS NATIONAL ATTENTION; BEST COOKS SELECTED

EASTON, Md. — The 17th annual Delmarva Chicken Festival passed into history here last Saturday night to the tune of nationwide publicity for poultry, an estimated total attendance of 45,000, and a new set of National Chicken Cooking Contest champions. The climaxing parade was viewed by 30,000.

Though the vast promotional reach of the festival cannot be accurately measured at the moment, conservative application of statistics indicates that more than 100 million persons were represented in the newspaper, radio, television and magazine audience served by 71 food editors and others who were special guests here in Easton for the 3-day turnout.

New national cooking champion is Mrs. Lawrence Newton, 47, of Chappaqua, N. Y. She was chosen over 108 finalists from 40 states, by a 12-member judging panel. The judges, headed by Eleanor Ney of Westchester County Publishers, New York, and Dora McCann of the "McCanns at Home" show on New York's Radio Station WOR, agreed with Mrs. Newton that her recipe was "transitional—formal or informal and quick, easy, economical, different and tasty."

Mrs. Newton's recipe, "World's Fair Chicken," uses chicken halves with a spiced sauce of orange juice, raisins, chutney and almonds, nested on hot rice and garnished with banana slices and mandarin oranges.

Finalists from 19 states were included among the 25 prizewinners, but only one of 9 male aspirants made the list. He was John Dunstan, New Hope, Pa.

Iowa had 3 winners among the top 25: Mrs. Wayne W. Peterson of Spen-

cer, fifth; Mrs. Grace Bricker, Des Moines, 19th, and Mrs. Amund Ihle, Slater, 23rd. States with more than one winner were Kansas, Montana, New Jersey and South Carolina.

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Runner-up in the senior nationals was Mrs. Gordon D. Lane, Rowayton, Conn., who cooked despite the handicap of a broken leg. Her recipe was "Chick 'N Cheesy." Third was a Grand Rapids, Mich., housewife, Mrs. Joseph Popma, with "Park Avenue Chicken."

Fourth was Mrs. Louise Blades, Felton, Del., only Delmarvan in the top 5. Her dish was "Cheese-Herbed Chicken." Iowa's Mrs. Peterson completed the quintet.

Other senior national winners up to 10th were Mrs. Elin Leeper, Carter, Mont., sixth; Mrs. William Cromwell, Flaxville, Mont., seventh; Mrs. J. F. Jones, Starr, S. C., eighth; Mrs. H. E. Ziegler, Margate, N. J., ninth, and Mrs. Pat Wade, Fort Worth, Tex., 10th. Mrs. Newton's recipe won her a trophy and 2 tickets for a 5-country trip to Europe, by jet.

Junior winner in the national contest was Leone Kroupa, 13, Cedar, Mich. Her "Stuffed Chicken Breasts" won the nod from a 6-judge panel. The chief judge, Silvie Schumann Reice, editor-in-chief of "Ingenué" magazine, said that most of the junior entries from 25 states and the District of Columbia were highly sophisticated, and "proved how developed the tastes of teenagers have become."

Second junior award went to Nanette Brown, 10, Philadelphia, whose recipe was "A Chicken Caper." Third was Charles Replogle, 13, Kansas City, Mo., with a recipe titled "Poppycock." A total of 4 boys and 7 girls shared placings with Miss Kroupa.

In the outdoor barbecue division 60 finalists competed, while 70 vied in the portable appliance division. The

new barbecue champion is Oliver C. Duffina, a printer from Washington's suburb of Silver Spring, Md. He is 54, and his wife was among the 59 other barbecue finalists whom he edged out.

Runner-up was Harry E. Davis, Webster Grove, Mo. Twenty-three men cooked in the barbecue finals. Leading woman barbecuer was Mrs. Thelma Herbert of Gnadenhutzen, Ohio, who was national senior champion 2 years ago. She placed third as a 1964 barbecue finalist.

Portable appliance champion is Mrs. James R. Blizzard sr., Millsboro, Del. Runner-up was Mrs. Madeleine Kamman, Glenside, Pa. Mrs. Blizzard's recipe used cut-up chicken, artichoke hearts, tomatoes and sherry. Mrs. Kamman, French-born, offered a recipe combining Delmarvalous chicken with Virginia ham and Wisconsin cheese.

Leone Kroupa receives a trip to Chicago and a \$2000 shopping tour of Polk Bros. store. Duffina, barbecue champ, was awarded a Caribbean vacation for himself and wife, while Mrs. Blizzard receives a houseful of portable appliances from Sunbeam Corp.

The new "Miss Delmarva" is Harriet Lou Davis, a 17-year-old honey blonde from Bridgeville, Del. She was chosen from among a field of 19 contestants. She is 5 feet, 5 inches tall, weighs 119, and wears a size 12 swimsuit. Her eyes are blue.

As "Miss Delmarva" she faces a full year of representing the \$175 million tristate broiler industry at public functions, and on radio and television. Her awards include a \$750 scholarship and a trophy. She will enter the University of Delaware in the autumn.

The runner-up is Eleanor Judith Terrell, 16, of Berlin, Md., who entered the contest as "Miss Berlin." Her awards are a trophy and a \$350 scholarship, which she plans to use in the study of mathematics. Others honored were Billie Daphne Sturgis, 16, Pocomoke City, Md., "Miss Personality," and Emily Elizabeth Messick, Federalsburg, Md., "Miss Popularity."

The 5-year-old daughter of a Worcester County deputy sheriff, Kimberly Kay Parsons, was named "Little Miss Delmarva."

Easton's population of 6400 marveled as 45,000 visitors consumed 7½ tons of chicken cooked in the 10-foot Delmarva frypan and on barbecue pits. Visitors totaling nearly 3000 took boat rides on the Tred Avon River, and others watched skydivers and viewed the parade and other entertainment.

Honorary festival chairman on Saturday, the concluding day, was Art Buchwald of Washington, the syndicated columnist.